

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 4-11 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3 and 12-18 have been cancelled. Claims 2 and 5-7 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant will designate Claim 10 as being non-elected and also will now request rejoinder of Claim 10. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Paranen, et al. (U.S. 2002/0110178) and/or JP 2001-349786 in view of Kamiya, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,659,358). Claims 1, 17 and 18 have been cancelled. Claim 2 has been amended to depend from allowed Claim 4 since it is believed to properly further limit Claim 4. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the prior art as applied to Claims 1, 2, 17 and 18 above, and further in view of Goupil, Jr., et al. (US 2003/0157881). Claim 6 has been amended to depend from allowed Claim 4 since it is believed to properly further limit Claim 4.

Claims 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the prior art as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of USP 6,155,492 (Figures 2 or 3) and Lambert, et al. (USP 6,828,560, Figures 5, 8 or 10). Claim 7 has been amended to depend from allowed Claim 4 since it is believed to properly further limit Claim 4. Claims 8-11 depend from Claim 7 and are believed to properly further limit Claims 4 and 7.

REJOINDER

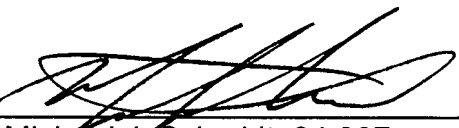
Applicants respectfully request the rejoinder of withdrawn Claims 5 and 10 which ultimately depend from Claim 4 and are believed to properly further limit Claim 4.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 18, 2007

By: 
Michael J. Schmidt, 34,007

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MJS/pmg